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Thursday, October 31, 2013

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U of C students try to cheer up their stressed-out peers during the midterm crunch PAGE 10

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REACTING TO DEFEAT

Karri Ramo reacts after letting in a goal during a game against the Toronto Maple Leafs in Calgary on Wednesday. The Flames lost to the Leafs, 4-2. Story, page 25. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Booze suspected in triple-fatal SW Calgary crash

Head-on. Two vehicles involved in crash on 17 Avenue SW

BRYAN WEISMILLER
bryan.weismiller@metronews.ca

The scene of a two-car, head-on crash on 17 Avenue near 37 Street SW Wednesday evening. BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

Speed and alcohol are being investigated as factors in a head-on crash that killed three people and left another in critical condition in hospital.

Four occupants of a Dodge Neon were heading eastbound on 17 Avenue SW when their car "started losing control and crossed the centre line and careened into a Jeep Cherokee" near 37 Street SW, said duty Staff Sgt. Paul Wozney late Wednesday. Two occupants of the Neon were pronounced dead by paramedics at the scene.

EMS spokesperson Stuart Brideaux identified the victims as two women in their 30s.

One man, reportedly in his mid-30s, succumbed to his injuries in hospital. The driver of the Neon, a man in his 40s, was reported to be in critical condition in the hospital.

"We utilized several resources even just to get those two patients to hospital because of the nature of their injuries," Brideaux said. The four occupants of the Jeep were assessed on scene and released.

Traffic Section investigators remained on scene late Wednesday, taking photos and measurements of the vehicles involved. The wreckage was expected to be cleared off the road in time for the morning commute.

No charges had been declared at press time.

WITH FILES FROM JEREMY NOLAIS

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Olympic bobsledder

Suspected Hells Angels member charged with extortion

Police say a sour business deal between two parties left a middleman fearing his life was in jeopardy.

Authorities raided a house in Royal Oak and arrested one man Tuesday following a three-month investigation. They also searched a rural property near secondary Highway 564 and Range Road 284.

On Wednesday, the Calgary Police Service announced Kenneth Peter Laurier Leblanc, 45, has been charged with one count of extortion.

LeBlanc is said to have ties with the notorious Hells Angels motorcycle gang. LeBlanc is also a former Olympic bobsledder.

Staff Sgt. Steve Drennan of the CPS Guns and Gangs Unit said Leblanc was investigated as "a private citizen" and would not confirm any links to organized crime.

The victim was reported to have brokered a business deal involving roughly $100,000. Drennan told reporters that threats were made in person and over the phone.

"He felt so threatened by the situation he came forward to police," he said. "There was enough intimidation there to feel the victim's life was in danger."

In response to the alleged threats, the victim purchased a security system and forked over money to the person who was threatening him.

"There was some money exchanged," Drennan said. "It was not a substantial amount, it was essentially a payment program."

BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

Sled Island executive director Maud Salvi COURTESY SLED ISLAND

Calgarians forfeit refunds to keep Sled Island afloat

Calgary's Sled Island organizers have balanced their books and vowed the festival will return in 2014 as strong as ever.

The future of the four-day music showcase, involving numerous bars around the city, had been thrown into question as the June flood hit and they were forced to cancel many shows — yet had troubles recovering much of the cost.

Executive director Maud Salvi said at the time the festival would offer refunds to those that requested it, but added that handing back all ticket revenue would amount to a loss of $200,000, enough to permanently cripple the event.

But festival organizers issued a plea for those that could afford it to forgo getting their money back and a release issued Wednesday indicated nearly 70 per cent chose to reinvest their money in Sled Island's future.

"It's incredible and overwhelming," Salvi said.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Uber dilemma over app's arrival in town

Luxury-vehicle debate. Company says Calgary limo regulations could force it out of the city

JEREMY NOLAIS
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Creators of an app aiming to streamline limo service are offering Calgary revellers an uber-sweet deal, but city regulators are sounding alarms about whether their offering is safe and fair to customers.

From Wednesday evening to Sunday at noon, Calgarians can download the Uber app and the company will cover the $78.30 charge for a free, one-hour limo ride.

The app is similar to others that link up drivers and customers through a smartphone but differs in the fact that it only deals with luxury vehicles and that payment is all done through online billing as opposed to cash.

But Uber representatives said that while they will play by the rules governing Calgary limos this weekend, it will lobby city officials to move away from a requirement that all limo passengers must pay for at least one hour of service at a minimum cost of $78.30.

If the rules don't change, the Uber technology won't work in Calgary, spokesperson Andrew Noyes said.

"We don't think it makes sense for the consumer or for the business to charge $78 if you're riding (in a limo) for five minutes," Noyes said.

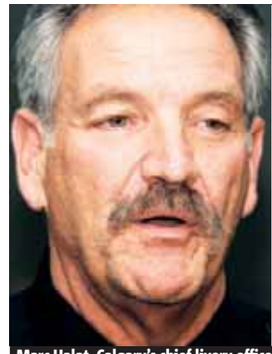
But Marc Halat, city chief livery officer, said the limo sedan regulations are regularly reviewed by members of Calgary's taxi limousine advisory committee as well as city council and are in place to protect customers and taxi drivers, who may struggle to make ends meet when competing on the same playing field as high-end rides.

"A limousine is something Calgarians may prefer to choose ... (but) you're going to pay more for that," Halat said.

Company history

The Uber app launched in San Francisco in 2010 and is currently approved for use in 50 cities, including Toronto and Montreal.

- But the company has been sued by taxi drivers in multiple cities amid claims it was operating outside of city regulations and robbing workers of their income.



Marc Halat, Calgary's chief livery officer, left, said Wednesday that while he encourages new technology that improves taxi and limousine service, he has concerns about U.S. app Uber, right. LEFT: JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO; RIGHT: COURTESY UBER

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Province will not force partnerships: Griffiths

Regional co-operation. NDP leader calls Bill 28 an 'enormous infringement on (municipal) autonomy'

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

The Alberta government is defending its new regional planning bill from opposition attacks, saying the legislation will gut municipal authority and could be used to put non-compliant elected officials in jail.

Municipal Affairs Minister Doug Griffiths also said he would not use Bill 28, the Modernizing Regional Governance Act, to force a partnership between Calgary and surrounding municipalities.

"I have no intention of utilizing this legislation to make them work together," Griffiths told reporters this week, noting the Calgary Regional Partnership, despite some difficulties, is functioning as a voluntary-participation group.

"I'm very confident that they'll continue to do that in a voluntary manner," Griffiths said, adding that recent mediation between municipal officials from Calgary and area has been "incredibly successful."

Bill 28 would give Premier Alison Redford's cabinet the authority to set up growth boards to address the shared needs of municipalities clustered closely together.

The boards' decisions would be binding, and no municipality would be allowed to pass laws or build anything that contravenes the board's decisions.

Elected officials who refuse to co-operate would be subject to a maximum $10,000 fine or one year in jail.

Wildrose Leader Danielle Smith called the bill a blindside attack on municipal councils just getting down to business after recent elections.

"It strips local municipalities of power, and it has some of the most draconian provisions I've ever seen," she said.

Redford, however, described the bill as a necessary step forward for the province.

Municipal Affairs Minister Doug Griffiths speaks in Calgary during the southern- Alberta flooding. METRO FILE

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ACAD. Student artists brighten Calgary venues

Students with the Alberta College of Art and Design are sprucing up popular city venues and potentially paving their way to a career come graduation time in the process.

A partnership between the school and the city sees third-year students develop pieces of art for city venues and then a panel of judges choose which go up as permanent installations.

On Wednesday, the city unveiled the works now contained inside the visitor centre of the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, which is visited by nearly 200,000 people annually. Everything from the doors to enter the bathrooms to planter boxes and the basic walls of the centre have been brightened up with images of deer, birds and other wildlife.

"This is really about building communities ... our exhibit was in need of (a) life-cycle (upgrade) and what it allowed us to do is have young people bring their flair in," explained Kym McCulley, environment and education initiatives lead for the city.

Ken Richardson, city manager of creative services, said the next batch of students will do similar work at Ralph Klein Provincial Park in the coming weeks and other venues, including Devonian Gardens, could be included down the road. He said the majority of his current staff are ACAD graduates.

"I am looking at these people and thinking ... I'm going to hire them when they finish school," Richardson said.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Ken Richardson and Kym McCulley with the City of Calgary are seen with one of the art projects done by ACAD students. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Brookfield Place

Construction starts on tallest structure

Dignitaries helped break ground at a sod-turning for what will be Calgary newest and tallest structure.

Construction began Wednesday on the 2.4 million square feet Brookfield Place Calgary, located at 1 and 2 St. SW and 6 and 7 Ave., and upon expected completion in late 2017 will stand 247 metres in height — the tallest structure in Western Canada. It is the site of the former Calgary Herald building. METRO

Calgary Petroleum Club

Trudeau blasts energy policies

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau has attacked the federal government's energy and environmental policies in a speech to oil executives in Calgary.

Trudeau told the Calgary Petroleum Club that the Harper government has failed to come up with a national strategy on greenhouse gases.

He says it has made Alberta's oilsands the poster child for global warming.

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From left: Historian Harry Sanders, Calgary-Fort MLA Wayne Cao, Fort Calgary board chair Cecilia Gossen, Fort Calgary CEO Sara-Jane Gruetzner, Calgary Centre MP Joan Crockatt and acting deputy mayor Coun. Brian Pincott turn soil in front of the historic Deane House. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Fort Calgary makeover begins

In with the new, and old. Multimillion-dollar project will restore historic buildings

ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

Two historic structures will be restored and a community park will be built between them in the first phase of a "master plan" for Fort Calgary that officially got underway Wednesday.

"This is going to be a very, very exciting part of the city," Fort Calgary board chair Cecilia Gossen said during a sod-turning ceremony outside the historic Deane House.

The 107-year-old structure is the only remaining North West Mounted Police (NWMP) building in Calgary and is to be fully restored, along with the 137-year-old Hunt House, Calgary's oldest building still standing at its original location.

Historian Harry Sanders said restoring old structures like these is more costly than building replicas, but the value in preserving the original buildings is immeasurable.

"There's nothing like authenticity. There's nothing like being at the place," he said. "It shows us that history doesn't just exist in history books or archives or black-and-white photographs; it has a legacy in the real, tangible world and we can reach out and touch it."

As part of the same phase of the project, a community park is to be developed that will link the two houses to the new Elbow River pedestrian bridge currently being built by the Calgary Municipal Land Corporation.

Phase 2 will see the creation of a new exhibit on the NWMP "F" Troop that built Fort Calgary, while Phase 3 will see an expansion of the interpretive centre, including a second-storey glass gallery.

Funding

The federal and provincial governments have each contributed $4 million to the project, while the city has kicked in $2.85 million, and Fort Calgary has requested another $1.25 million in civic contributions.

- The National Historic Site hopes to find another $9.2 million through a fundraising campaign.

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U of C. Students doling out kindness during the midterm crunch

Students preparing for midterms shut their textbooks momentarily in hopes of brightening the spirits of their stressed University of Calgary peers Wednesday.

The group of five handed out red, yellow and blue roses at noon Wednesday inside the Taylor Family Digital Library. Inspirational messages, many of which were taken direct from the Qur'an, are attached to 170 flowers purchased by the group.

"Have endurance in suffering, be patient and persevere," reads one.

Sana Kaleem, a first-year student involved with the project, admitted she has struggled with adapting to the independent nature of post-secondary education.

"You kind of have to work at your own pace, stay on top of your game," she said.

Ahmed Mujahid, a fourth-year student also involved with the project, said it's important to boost the confidence of university newcomers.

These roses and many more will be handed out by some well-wishing U of C students hoping to lift the spirits of their peers cramming for midterms. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

"Everything will be OK for them, but they don't know that," he said. "You just need to give them that encouragement."

Kaleem said the project was self-funded by the students involved, but welcomed support for potential rose handouts in the future. She can be reached at sanakaleem01@gmail.com. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Costa Concordia book 'kept the nightmare alive'

Catastrophe. Calgary couple still dealing with after-effects of Italian shipwreck

This photo, taken in the days after the Costa Concordia wreck, shows Andrea and Laurence Davis celebrating their arrival home in Calgary with their two sons, Evan, left, and Tony, centre, daughter Leora Hornstein, son-in-law David Hornstein and grandsons Caleb Hornstein, 3, centre, and Jaron Hornstein, 1. METRO FILE

Even as she detailed the book she toiled over for a year, Andrea Davis scrolled through the latest news out of Europe in the ongoing trial of Costa Concordia's embattled captain.

It's been nearly two years since the massive cruise liner smashed into rocks off the Tuscan Island of Giglio and quickly filled with water. Thirty-two people died.

Andrea and husband Laurence, both from Calgary, were forced to swim to shore — the pair were offered one remaining seat in a lifeboat but refused to separate. Once they made it to land, they walked in the pitch-black on jagged rocks, unsure of whether help would arrive.

Now, Andrea has published a book titled Survival Is Only the Beginning, but admits even it may need some reworking once the Concordia tale is fully resolved.

"It kept the nightmare alive in me," she said of the literary work. "You'd like to say, 'Let's close the box and move on' — it just doesn't work like that."

Concordia's captain, Francesco Schettino, is on trial, facing charges of manslaughter, abandoning ship and causing a Maritime disaster. The media horde around the scandalous story has hardly subsided — just this week a claim by a Moldovan dancer that she was Schettino's lover and had been smuggled aboard the vessel made international headlines.

Andrea and Laurence Davis will take part in a book-signing event Saturday at the Chapters in Chinook Centre from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. More information about Andrea's book can be found at andreadaviscostaconcordia.com. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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Edmonton

Post-secondary students deliver 1,000 letters to the legislature

A group protesting the cuts to post-secondary education dropped off 1,000 letters from students, faculty and other staff Wednesday, trying to demonstrate the impact the cuts are having.

The Coalition for Action on Post-Secondary Education dropped off the letters at the Alberta Legislature Wednesday. Carolyn Sale, a University of Alberta professor who is part of the group, said they wanted to show students are feeling the cuts.

"What we got students to try and indicate in their message, even if they were brief, is some kind of detail to communicate to the minister and the government how they are being impacted," said Sale.

She said cuts have already hit schools, but it will only get worse next year and she hopes the letters can help the government change course. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

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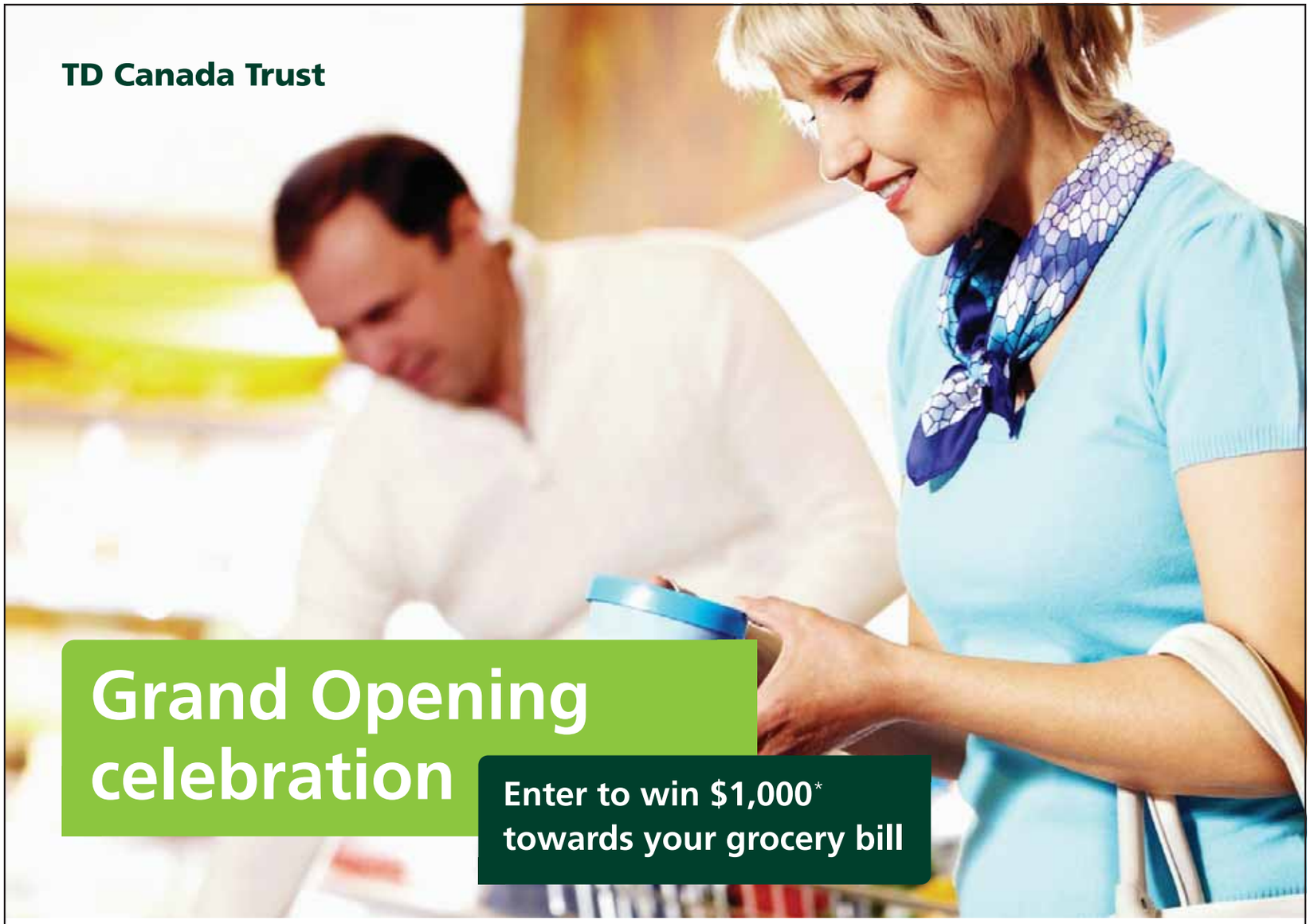

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Embattled Mike Duffy stars in a new song and dance

Senate saga spoof.
P.E.I. radio morning man (he's as crafty as a fox) pokes fun at senator with a cheeky parody song

A radio station in P.E.I. has made a parody song poking fun at their senator Mike Duffy's recent speeches in the expenses scandal.

Remixing the popular song What Does the Fox Say? morning host Matt MacLeod of P.E.I.'s Hot 105.5 put together a spoof song called What Does the Duff Say?

The song uses clips from Duffy's Senate remarks such as, "I was ordered by the prime minister to pay the money back," as the melody and beat of the original song play in the background.

A voice chimes in as the chorus singing, "What does the Duff say?"

MacLeod borrowed clips from the radio station's newsroom to do the remix.

The station's program director, Myles MacKinnon, said P.E.I. has about 140,000 residents, for whom Duffy's expenses saga is "the best reality TV you can imagine."

"We're having a lot of fun with it. We know it's a serious thing, but our job is to have fun with it," MacKinnon said Wednesday.

Senators are looking at a motion that would see Duffy, Pamela Wallin and Patrick Brazeau suspended from the red chamber. But a vote on the motion appears to have been put off until Friday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Fox (What Does the Fox Say?) is a dance-music video, above, by Norwegian comedy duo Ylvis that has been viewed about 175 million times. A parody of the song features Sen. Mike Duffy, inset.

YOUTUBE/SCREENGRAB; INSET: THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Styled for Sochi ... next stop the winners' podium?

Will this be a winning look in Sochi? Curler Cheryl Bernard and skier Jan Hudec give Canadians the first glimpse of the styles our athletes will wear at the 2014 Winter Olympics. As always, the patriotic designs flaunt Canada's colours as well as imagery of the polar bear, beaver and loon. Bonnie Brooks,right, president of The Hudson's Bay Co. — the official outfitter — helped unveil the uniforms at a Toronto ceremony Wednesday. The athletes' clothing is being made in Canada, she said. Replicas for consumers will be made offshore. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Halloween howls

Her trick won't be a treat for chubby kids

It won't be a very happy Halloween for some children in Fargo, N.D.

A woman who identified herself as "Cheryl" told a morning radio show she plans to dole out "fat letters" to "moderately obese" trick-or-treaters Thursday night to inform them of the dangers of being overweight.

"Cheryl" decided to opt for the letters instead of handing out fruit or granola bars because parents need to "step up."

"Your child is, in my opinion, moderately obese and should not be consuming sugar and treats," her letters will declare.

METRO IN BOSTON

Tax fraud shocks

Feds misplace laptops ... and millions of $$$

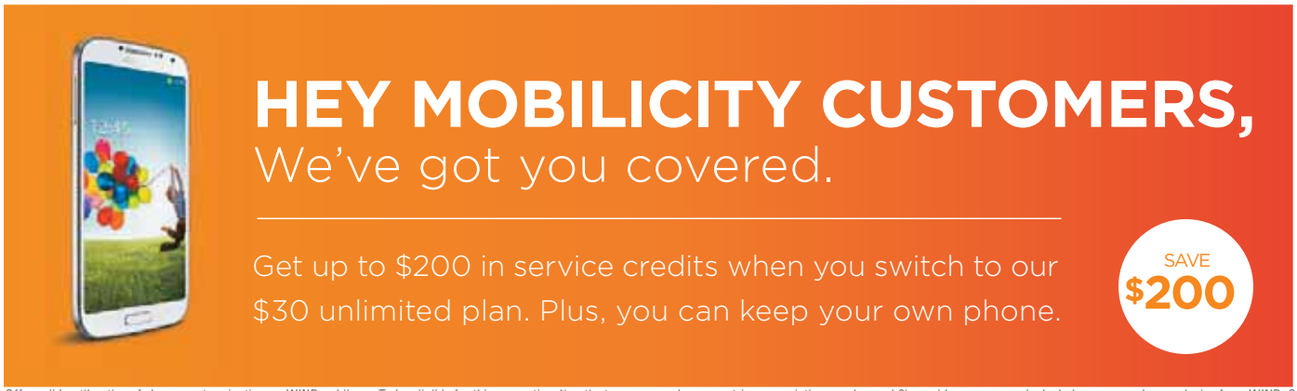
Hundreds of weapons, BlackBerrys, laptops and iPads have gone missing or been stolen or destroyed, according to the federal government's annual accounting of its property.

Missing money and absent items are outlined in an annual report to Parliament, tabled Wednesday.

The amount of tax fraud discovered in the last year is estimated at about $250 million, down from more than $300 million last year.

But employment insurance fraud is up, reaching about $159 million.

THE CANADIAN PRESS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Work, don't twerk

Dance shakes its butt onto school's forbidden list

One Southern California high school has added twerking to its list of dances that are banned for students.

The Orange County Register reports Tuesday that administrators at Aliso Niguel High School decided the rump-busting dance is sexually suggestive and should no longer be allowed on campus or at dances.

Twerking now joins "freaking" and "grinding" as prohibited dances at the Orange County school. Those who break the rules could be ineligible for future dances for the remainder of the school year. Parents also will be notified.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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News of the World trial. Phone-hacking was a 'conspiracy': Prosecutor

Former News International chief executive Rebekah Brooks arrives at the Old Bailey court for the phone-hacking conspiracy trial Wednesday in London, England.

DAN KITWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

A prosecutor said Wednesday that there was "a conspiracy which involved a significant number of people" to hack phones at the Rupert Murdoch-owned News of the World, revealing that three senior journalists at the now-defunct newspaper have pleaded guilty to illegally eavesdropping on voicemails.

Opening the long-awaited hacking trial of former News of the World editors Rebekah Brooks, Andy Coulson and others, prosecution lawyer Andrew Edis said hacking and other illegal activity at the paper and its sister tabloid, The Sun, went on for a decade. He said it was inconceivable that the top executives didn't know about it.

"They were in charge of the purse strings," Edis said, adding that they signed off on illicit payments.

"Mrs. Brooks personally approved nearly 40,000 pounds for stories" to a senior defence official, Edis said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Um, that's not covered. Employee denied workers' comp for sex injury

Australia's highest court on Wednesday denied workers' compensation to a government employee who was injured while having sex in a motel room during a business trip.

The 4-1 decision from the High Court said the woman's employer did not induce or encourage her to participate in the sex, so the federal government's insurer, Comcare, was not liable to compensate her. A lower court had said the woman was injured in the course of her employment and should be compensated.

The woman, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, was a civil servant in her 30s when she was hospitalized for the injury in 2007. She and a man were having sex in her motel room when a light fixture above the bed fell onto her face, injuring her nose and mouth.

Comcare initially approved her claim for workers' compensation, but rejected it after further investigation. An administrative tribunal agreed that her injuries were not suffered in the course of her employment, saying the government had not induced or encouraged the woman's sexual conduct. The tribunal also found the sex was "not an ordinary incident of an overnight stay," such as showering, sleeping or eating.

Quoted

"The relevant question is: Did the employer induce or encourage the employee to engage in that activity?"

Summary of the court ruling

Federal Court Judge John Nicholas overturned that last year, rejecting the tribunal's findings that the sex had to be condoned by the government if she were to qualify.

"If the applicant had been injured while playing a game of cards in her motel room, she would be entitled to compensation even though it could not be said that her employer induced her to engage in such activity," Nicholas wrote then.

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* Ipsos Reid's survey of 1000 married and cohabiting couples, 645 (or 65%) of whom who pay bank fees, conducted Aug 2-8 2013. [1] Eligible Canadian dollar accounts include any two of the following banking accounts with the monthly fees waived: RBC Day to Day Banking®, RBC Enhanced Savings® and RBC Day to Day Savings®. Debit transaction means a withdrawal of funds from an account and includes an assisted transaction and an electronic self-serve transaction. [2] ATM operator surcharge (also called convenience fee) charged by other ATM operators may apply and be added directly to the amount of your cash withdrawal. The convenience fee is not a Royal Bank fee. All clients who use non-RBC ATMs may be charged a convenience fee by the other ATM operator regardless of the type of account they hold with us. [3] Starting September 1, 2013 the RBC VIP Banking account will include unlimited Interac e-Transfers. [4] The amount of the annual fee rebate depends on which banking package and eligible credit card you hold. The annual fee rebate applies every year as long as you remain an eligible account owner. Other conditions and restrictions apply. † Limited time offer. To get $300 worth of gift cards/certificates, you will need a total of 36,000 RBC Rewards® points. To learn how, and for full offer details, go to rbc.com/termsandconditions. ®/TM Trademark(s) of Royal Bank of Canada. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada.

Actor Ashton Kutcher, who has made a career playing male bimbos, is now a 'product engineer' at Lenovo. The company insists he will not just be a pretty pitchman, but also a 'deeply integrated' part of the company. MICHAEL KOVAC/GETTY IMAGES FOR LENOVO

Lenovo's pretty pitchman and, um, 'product engineer'

Ashton Kutcher. The model turned actor, best known for playing a dim hunk on That '70s Show, is now an 'engineer' for a computer company

Computer-maker Lenovo has hired tech-savvy actor Ashton Kutcher to help design and pitch its latest line of tablets, dubbing the Hollywood star a "product engineer" who can bring his ideas along with his image.

It's the latest tech foray for the Two and a Half Men performer who recently starred in a biopic about innovative giant Steve Jobs and has invested venture capital in more than a dozen Silicon Valley startups.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He'll be in a cubicle 9-5 then?

Lenovo declared the actor will play a big role: "This partnership goes beyond traditional bounds by deeply integrating him into our organization as a product engineer as we look at developing the next wave of products," said a spokesman.

Market Minute

DOLLAR 95.38¢ (-0.13¢)

TSX 13,455.33 (+14.72)

OIL $96.77 US (-$1.43)

GOLD $1,349.30 US (+$3.80)

Natural gas: $3.64 US (no change)
Dow Jones: 15,618.76 (-61.59)

Bullied at work? New legislation in B.C. will help workers fight back

The agency dedicated to protecting the safety of about 2.2 million workers in British Columbia is not going to bully the province's employers into implementing new rules that deal with workplace harassment, says a senior executive.

Instead of taking a "heavy-handed approach" to enforcement, WorkSafeBC will consult with employers to ensure they follow changes to the Workers Compensation Act that take effect Friday, said Al Johnson, vice-president of prevention services.

WorkSafeBC expects many questions, so Johnson said people will be given time to digest the new rules. But if employers are unwilling to comply, officers may have to eventually write enforcement orders, he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE ABOUT THE SEAT?

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

I've bought new furniture all by myself for the first time, and I think it's safe to say after years as a stereotypical bachelor, I'm all grown up now. And not just a grown-up — a family man.

I'll explain.

All my previous big-ticket purchases have been nothing but big tickets (plane trips, concerts, hockey games), so I was a little intimidated when I started reading online advice about buying furniture. The tips said this was a Big Life Decision; it was all about strength and style and "what's most important is what's on the inside."

They made it sound like I was buying people — a brand-new family. This was disconcerting. If it was true, then my existing furniture had been a ragtag group of has-beens and ne'er-do-wells.

There was the sad little orphan coffee table, left over from my failed marriage. You could almost hear it coughing from the dust.

There were two yellow-green chairs that were still living in the past.

There was my $299 mattress, which had done its duty for a decade but had passed on some time ago. It received a martyr's funeral, carried out of the apartment on my shoulders while I sang its praises. I fired no weapons though, because the landlord doesn't like holes in the wall.

Most prominently, there was my love seat. You know those celebrities like Clint Eastwood and Dave Hodge where you think, "Geez, they were old when I was a kid." That was the love-seat, which was dug out of my dad's baby barn after spending a lifetime in my grandmother's house. It was already dead, really, but we Febrezed it back to life (defebrezulated?) and its elderly frame hunkers in my apartment still.

It's not a stately old maid either. It's more like the type of senior who tells you about that time she slept with Leonard Cohen, then coughs into a tissue and sticks it into her bra. The upper left corner is tearing. I guess that's bursitis.

Faced with this lot, I decided I would live the dream of so many and replace my family. I started with a new bookcase and a new bed, grabbing both from an adoption agency called Ikea.

The family looks really good, I think, and fits well into my life — partially because of my keen eye for this sort of thing, partially because I haven't taken them out of their boxes yet.

I've heard a lot of horror stories about rushing into family life, so I thought I'd build myself up to it. It's natural. The new bed should be created in nine months or so. You'll know when it happens. Expect lots of profile pics on Facebook.

ZOOM

More smiles than spooks

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

B.C. resident shows off big pumpkin

Vancouver resident Chuck Kokol has a pumpkin display every Halloween outside his heritage home. Neighbours say he's outdone himself this year with this mammoth, which weighs more than 700 pounds and took a carver six hours to create.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Picture perfect

"I wanted a children-friendly face, a happy Halloween. I see Halloween is going to the extreme in the other way, but I do our show with just pumpkins. I believe it's a beautiful effect." Chuck Kokol

'It looks like a UFO landed'

Sporting a mile-wide smile (actually more like four feet) and standing up to shoulder-height on most people, Kokol's cheery jack-o'-lantern comes in as one of British Columbia's biggest pumpkins.

Seven hundred watts of lighting have been installed and Kokol is ready for the big day.

"At nighttime, it's just an amazing glow. It looks like a UFO landed and it can been seen from up the block," he said.

Kokol got the gargantuan pumpkin from a grower in Langley, B.C. after it completed its career on the contest circuit, featuring in shows in Portland, Ore., and Cloverdale, B.C.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Clickbait

HANNAH ZITNER
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

If only you could figure out what to buy the person who has everything. And if only you could do a good deed while you're at it. Introducing (you guessed it), IfOnly.com. The site connects sports, music, film and lifestyle "luminaries" with every day folk — well, everyday folk who have fancy gold cards. Celebrities are putting on offer their time in exchange for a cash money donation to a charity of their choice. Experiences and items range from $35 to more than $100,000. Here's a sample of what's on offer:

$35:
The least expensive item on If Only includes a guitar pick signed by Soundgarden's Chris Cornell. Maybe not the most exciting option (unless you know a die-hard Soundgarden fan) but the money is for a good cause: The kids.

$2,000:
Not only do you get red-carpet passes to Joseph Gordon-Levitt's directorial debut Don Jon, in the U.K., you also get to walk the red carpet with him and co-star Scarlett Johansson.

$78,600:
Watch a boxing match with a boxing legend. Begin the day eating lunch with Mike Tyson and follow it up with a 'big-time' boxing match sitting ringside with the boxing great (background check required).

GETTY IMAGES

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Almost half of B.C. believes in ghosts — and Metro's Paul Sullivan isn't impressed. Do you believe in #ghosts?

@igor_mariano: I don't believe in them, ghosts are usually big liars

@Canucklehead_ca: I don't even believe that 'ghost peppers' are a real thing. What's next, ghost towns?!!!

@singh_amna: of course!!

@TimothyPRylett: Yes Ghost towns Do Exist, Have you been to Detroit? LOL

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Slayer are still killing it

Twelfth studio album. The band lost a founding member this year, but that's not stopping the dark noise

BACKSTAGE PASS
Jared Story
scene@metronews.ca

Despite the recent death of guitarist Jeff Hanneman, Slayer are back out on tour. CONTRIBUTED

Slayer's still reigning.

The legendary American thrash metal band was dealt a major blow earlier this year, when guitarist and founding member Jeff Hanneman died of liver failure on May 2.

However, guitarist Kerry King says the band is in the process of making a new record, Slayer's 12th studio album since forming in Los Angeles in 1981.

"To me, it will be business as usual as it can be," says King, 49, who is joined in Slayer by vocalist/bassist Tom Araya, drummer Paul Bostaph and touring guitarist Gary Holt.

"Usually by the time any idea was presented, I'd have finished it or Jeff would have it finished, so they were essentially finished songs. We'll just move forward like that.

"Musically, I'm sitting on roughly 14 tunes that we can pick from and I've finished seven of those lyrically. I'm way ahead of the game compared to where I was for World Painted Blood (the band's 2009 album)."

Slayer's all about staying the course.

Since finding its form on 1986's Reign in Blood, the band has consistently released records full of fast tremolo picking, double bass drumming, shouted vocals and lyrics so sinful they could make Satan himself blush.

"Fans don't want you to change," says King.

"How many fans do you think Metallica pissed off when they did Load and Reload? People like Slayer because it's Slayer.

"You grow as a musician within your genre, not try and flip genres and become something else."

Still, with the death of Hanneman, there are questions, like will Holt — who is also the lead guitarist in Exodus — play guitar on the new Slayer album?

"I've told Gary that I'd like him to play some leads, just to keep it interesting," says King.

"We've always been a two guitar attack, so if you're looking to have a segment like the Angel of Death lead trade-off, you can't do that with one guitar.

"As far as Gary being a contributing writer, number one, fans aren't ready for it, and number two, that's like throwing somebody to the wolves.

"I think if there's another record after this one and Gary is still with us at that point, I think that will be a time where I say, 'Hey dude, feel free to throw any riffs my way if you're interested'."

Slayer is playing a cross Canada tour right now.

They stop at the Big Four Building, Nov. 3.

Advanced tickets are available for purchase on Ticketmaster.

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From the Oscars to Las Vegas lounges

Last Vegas. Mary Steenburgen holds her own in a cast of fellow former Academy Award winners in this comedy about a final hurrah

MATT PRIGGE
Metro World News in New York

Last Vegas, which boasts a singing Mary Steenburgen, opens this Friday. CONTRIBUTED

Last Vegas stars Michael Douglas, Robert De Niro, Morgan Freeman and Kevin Kline. If that weren't enough Oscar winners for a light comedy, there's a fifth: Mary Steenburgen, who plays a lounge singer who catches the eyes of the characters played by Douglas and De Niro.

Steenburgen, who won best supporting actress for Melvin and Howard in 1980, has, like her character, found herself drawn to music in her middle age: Since 2007, she's also a songwriter, who wrote a song her character performs in the movie.

Not everything in the film was shot in Vegas. How was it shooting the scenes that were?
It was sort of a three-ring circus, in that every scene there had about 10 people deep, all around us watching us and taking our pictures with cellphones and yelling at us. You can try to control Vegas, but it can only be a little bit controlled.

It seems like everyone was just having a good time, with some work slipped in.
I think a lot of it is just the pleasure of a great job at this age and not worrying about what's coming next, who's got bigger billing — all the crap people worry about; especially when you're younger. Funnily enough no one had worked together. The only two people who had were Kevin and myself, who had done a couple scenes together in a movie a long time ago (Life as a House in 2001). We just savoured and sat around telling amazing stories about our early days in New York, theatre stories, talking about our kids…

By now, you're probably not exactly intimidated by working with actors. But were you a bit scared with Robert De Niro?
Was I slightly awed by him? Yes. Did I feel like I was about 16? Yes. But he recognizes the truth, which is that comedy is more difficult than drama. One of the main reasons I fell in love with my husband (Ted Danson) is how graceful he made it look as an actor. You can't be taught funny. I think years ago, when (De Niro) did Analyze This, I saw him from afar catch the fever.

Quoted

"My husband and I laugh about it all the time. Parts of it break your heart, because none of us wants to exit the planet."
Mary Steenburgen on getting older

The film is a comedy, but it does deal with serious issues.
It talks about aging in a funny way. My husband and I laugh about it all the time. Parts of it break your heart, because none of us wants to exit the planet. I think that's what's cool about my character. Some things have ended for her: Her marriage ended, her time as a mother ended. And she decided to go for a dream she always had, even if she's singing in a lounge with two people, and both are on ventilators. But she would keep on singing, because singing is what brings her joy. I understood that. I had a parallel to that in my life.

Seven years ago I started writing music. I stared down being a beginner and being bad and making a fool of myself, and started all over at something I really never imagined I'd do.

Back to music, can you talk about your segue into a career writing music?
I had a surgery on my arm in 2007. And it was a minor surgery but I had to go under general anesthetic. When I came out from underneath it, I felt very strange, and I kept saying I had a reaction to my anesthetic. I kept drinking water, trying to get it out of my system, and I kept feeling so odd. I felt like there was a radio in my brain. Everything was kind of musical.

It was very confusing and eventually when it hadn't gone away after a number of days, it became upsetting, terrifying. I couldn't sleep at night. After a few weeks I looked in the mirror and thought, "Look, you're a mother, you're a wife, you're a daughter, you're a sister, there's a lot of people who count on you, and you cannot go crazy (laughs). You better figure out how to make this work for you."

So I started studying music and composition and great songwriters. I went back and revisited songs that I loved that I never paid attention to, to study how they were written.

Then eventually I started to take the fragments of what I was hearing and the songs out of them, and then I picked out a musician I respected and I said, "I don't have the greatest voice but if I sing this note for note for you, can we make music together?"

We did it, and I sent 12 of the songs under my mom's name to a very wonderful music lawyer, who said, "Let me see that kid."

And my manager said, "Yeah, 'kid' doesn't quite describe her."

And now I write for Universal Music.

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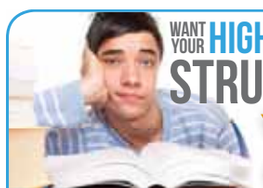

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Film is full of momentous goodbyes

All The Wrong Reasons. One of Cory Monteith's final movies hits screens this week, and his co-stars talk about filming the flick

Cory Monteith "never complained" about work on All the Wrong Reasons, says co-star Emily Hampshire. CONTRIBUTED

Filming overnight in a Halifax Zellers store on the set of All the Wrong Reasons was like fulfilling "a childhood fantasy in a way," says actress Emily Hampshire.

"Being able to go into a store when it's closed down and you can take everything and play with the toys, that was really fun, in the movie and shooting it," she said in an interview at the recent Toronto International Film Festival, where the drama debuted.

But it was also a sad occasion during shooting in summer 2012 as the store was being converted into a Target "and all the employees there were being let go," she added.

"If they wanted to get a job at the Target, they had to, like, apply for a job and lose all their seniority," said Hampshire.

"It was kind of heartbreaking to see what was happening, so they were really thrilled that we were filming there, actually.

"It was such a kind of momentous goodbye, I guess."

All the Wrong Reasons is also a goodbye of sorts for fans of Cory Monteith. It's one of the late Glee star's final two films.

Fredericton-born Gia Milani makes her feature directorial debut on the project, which opens Friday in Toronto (Cineplex Scotiabank) and Vancouver (Cineplex International Village). Milani also wrote and co-produced.

Victoria-raised Monteith, who died in July at age 31, plays an ambitious big-box department store manager who gets cosy with a cashier (Hampshire) when his wife (Karine Vanasse) suffers intimacy issues due to post-traumatic stress disorder.

Vanasse's character developed a phobia of people touching her after going through a harrowing experience, and she finds comfort in prescription drugs as well as a new security guard (Kevin Zegers) at the department store, where she supervises surveillance feeds.

Hampshire, a Montreal native with film credits including The Trotsky and Cosmopolis, said she did a Skype meeting with Milani before signing on.

"In that Skype session I think we discovered — aside from the fact that I was doing the movie — was that we were maybe twin sisters separated at birth.

She's a survivor

Emily Hampshire's character is contemptible at times, but the actress saw her as "a survivor" who was "trying to make the best life for herself that she could under the circumstances."

"It's funny, I guess I have a particular affinity for the person who does the bad thing," she said with a laugh. "I don't know where this comes from, maybe I was a terrible teenager."

"Our mothers look insanely alike. They both had this flash of white hair, and there were just so many things that we had in common. So it did feel like a kindred spirit kind of thing, which helped going into the shoot, especially with a first-time director."

Hampshire got to train with cashiers who worked at the store and said she developed "a lot of respect for them" and is "a way better customer now."

Meanwhile, Monteith was flying to Los Angeles "on the weekends, going to do press (for Glee) and then flying back and doing our super low-budget movie where we were all sharing a room for our trailer and changing together," noted Hampshire.

"And he never complained. If anything, he was the captain of that ship of: 'We're all in this together.'"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Tori Spelling. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Desperate housewife: Tori spells it out in sixth memoir — she's got a sex tape

Tori Spelling admits that there's a sex tape featuring her and husband Dean McDermott floating around out there, though it's been a couple of years since she's heard about it. According to Spelling's sixth memoir, Spelling It Like It Is, she and McDermott were looking to spice things up in 2009. "Dean said, 'We should tape ourselves having sex,'" she writes.

"He had a little portable tripod, and he set up his video camera on it. Afterward, I checked my angles and they were good, so I allowed him to keep it." Apparently a former friend of the couple snatched it off their home computer and attempted to sell it two years later. "I was horrified," Spelling writes, explaining that they sent the man a cease and desist letter. "We never heard from him again, and the incident went away."

Lohan's sobriety = partying till the break of dawn

October apparently hasn't been an easy month for Lindsay Lohan's fledgling sobriety.

The troubled starlet has been spending a lot of time at bars, clubs and parties this month, and she's reportedly fallen off the wagon when it comes to booze, according to Star magazine.

"She was definitely drinking alcohol. She got increasingly sloppy as the hours went on," a source who spotted Lohan at a party in L.A. last week tells the magazine.

"At one point Lindsay was literally hanging onto a couple of her friends, like, they were holding her up."

She's also reportedly been sneaking vodka cocktails at bars in New York, and she partied till dawn at "an alcohol-fuelled bash" in Hollywood with Paris Hilton and Miley Cyrus recently.

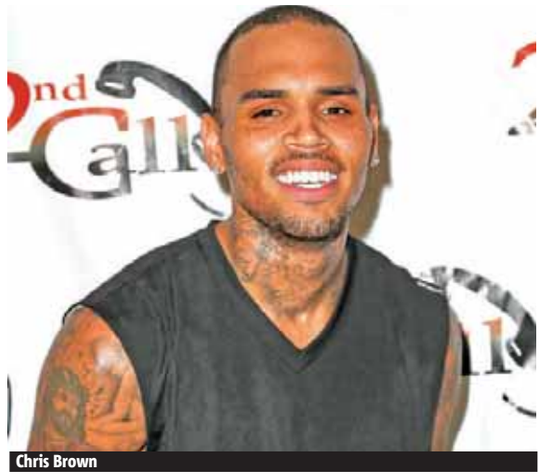
"Lindsay arrived around 3 a.m. and was still there when dawn was breaking," a source says. METRO

Twitter

@AnnaKendrick47
Oh hello again 4am, you whore.

@tyrabanks
My tablet got too hot to handle so I made her take a chill pill in the fridge. Hope she's not claustrophobic.

@jimmykimmel
note to every LA news channel — unless they're in a zoo, all bears are "on the loose"



Chris Brown

Chris Brown off to rehab for anger management

Chris Brown has checked himself into rehab for some anger management issues just a day after appearing in court over charges he assaulted a man outside a Washington, D.C., hotel. "Chris Brown has elected to enter a rehab facility," his rep says in a statement.

"His goal is to gain focus and insight into his past and recent behaviour, enabling him to continue the pursuit of his life and his career from a healthier vantage point."

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Take Kerr of yourself and your best will surely follow

She's starting with the model in the mirror. One of Australia's most magnificent imports spills her style, beauty and wellness tips

TINA CHADHA
Metro World News in NYC

"Be good to yourself and then you'll be able to give a lot more to your family, to your friends and to your work," says Miranda Kerr. CONTRIBUTED

Days before she walked the runway at Stella McCartney and Chanel's Spring 2014 Paris Fashion Week shows, we met up with Miranda Kerr at the chic rooftop of the Gramercy Park Hotel. There, the star of Mango's new grunge-inspired fall campaign talked about her fave looks from the '90s ("An oversized blazer, ankle boots and leather jacket with studs") and let us in on her style and beauty essentials.

You always look so well put together. How would you describe your look?
I try to go for classic and effortless and experiment a little bit depending on my mood. I like functional clothes especially, because now I'm a mom and go to the park. But when I go to work, I enjoy putting on a heel and embracing that feminine side.

How has your personal style changed since becoming a mom?
I keep it more practical now. It's all about fabrics that don't crease because I'm always holding (my son. Flynn) always wants to be in my arms or swinging on swings. I think comfort is important and wearing fabrics that make you feel good and accentuate the parts about yourself that you like. It's not necessarily about following a trend, but finding pieces that work with your body type.

You live in New York now. Talk to us about closet space.
It's not enough! But it's good because I've gotten rid of so much stuff I actually feel lighter. I have three little closets that I try to squeeze everything into. I've stripped it back to the basics and gave at least a room full of stuff to my friends and charity. I've also learned to maximize space. Now, I fold my jeans so they sit up, so when you open the drawer you see them.

If you were travelling and could only pack a small bag, what would go in?
A great pair of jeans that fit well, a blazer, a couple of T-shirts, a pair of loafers, a scarf and a hoodie — and one little black dress. I always pick up scarves at the airport, like airports in Asia, because it's not what you normally see. You'll find something different there.

You know how to rock a red lip. What are some of your beauty tips?
If I'm tired I just put on a red lip and sunglasses and it's a simple and effective way to uplift the face — just add a splash of colour. Sometimes I'll use a bit of the lip colour on my cheeks so I look a bit more alive — like the blood is pumping, the circulation is going. I also apply my KORA Organics lip balm to highlight my cheekbones. It makes you feel fresh.

You're a certified health coach. Any new healthy habits you've incorporated?
I have hot water and half a lemon in the morning. It's a very simple tip that cleanses the digestive system when you wake up and it really kick-starts your metabolism. Then I have a cold pressed green juice, like kale, spinach and celery with lemon, and then I have a smoothie that I make myself. I think it's really important to have a balance in life and fill your body with nutrients when and where you can, but then also know that you're a human being and you can't be too hard on yourself. I try to be 80 healthy and 20 per cent indulgent. I just don't believe in depriving yourself because life is short and we're here to enjoy it.

Read her lips

Revlon ColorStay Ultimate Liquid Lipstick in Top Tomato, $10.99, revlon.com

Chanel Rouge Coco Shine Sheer Lipshine in Rebelle, $34, chanel.com

Ellis Faas Milky Lips in Dark Blood, $35, sephora.com

Drink up!

Kerr's smoothie ingredients

- Coconut water
- Chia seeds
- Goji berry
- Maca powder
- Spirulina
- Acai powder
- Noni powder
- Sun warrior protein powder

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Make like Five, Seven and Two, and get to painting

"If you make a mistake, don't lose your head," write Pierre A. Lamielle and Julie Van Rosendaal in Alice Eats of Five, Seven and Two's Painted-Red Sugar Cookies. "A little paint can fix it up and if that fails, brush up on your cookie-baking. It's more difficult to execute someone who has just given you cookies, so stack the deck in your favour..."

To make the cookies

1. In a bowl, beat the butter, oil, sugar and lemon zest with an electric mixer until pale and light; add the egg and vanilla and beat for a minute, until smooth and blended.

2. In a small bowl, stir together the flour, baking powder and salt. Add to the sugar mixture and stir by hand or beat on low speed just until you have a soft dough. Shape the dough into a disc, wrap in plastic and refrigerate for half an hour.

3. When you're ready to bake, preheat the oven to 350 F (180 C). On a lightly floured surface, roll the dough out to about 1/8-inch (3 mm) thick. Cut the cookies into card shapes — or flowers, hearts, spades or a combination of shapes — and place 1 inch (2.5 cm) apart on a parchment-lined baking sheet.

To make the paint

1. Put the egg yolk in a dish and add a few drops of food colouring. Mix with a fork until well blended. Use a small paintbrush to paint the unbaked cookies with the red "paint."

2. Bake for 14 minutes, until the cookies are pale golden around the edges and the paint is dry and glossy. Using a thin spatula, transfer to a wire rack.

RECIPE EXCERPTED FROM ALICE EATS (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY PIERRE A. LAMIELLE AND JULIE VAN ROSENDAAL

Painted-Red Sugar Cookies

The queen's gardeners, Five, Seven and Two, painted roses red after accidently planting white ones. You'll paint two to three dozen cookies. JULIE VAN ROSENDAAL FROM ALICE EATS (WHITECAP BOOKS)

Ingredients

Cookies
- 1/3 cup (85 ml) butter, at room temperature
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) canola or other mild vegetable oil
- 3/4 cup (185 ml) sugar
- grated zest of a lemon
- 1 large egg
- 2 tsp (10 ml) vanilla
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp (5 ml) baking powder
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt

Paint
- 1 egg yolk
- drops of red food colouring

Cookbook of the Week

Alice's culinary Wonderland

The foods in Alice in Wonderland are instantly recognizable. In their book, Alice Eats: A Wonderland Cookbook, Pierre A. Lamielle and Julie Van Rosendaal answer questions like, "What would the treats at a Mad Hatter party taste like?"

Not only does the book feature recipes (Mock Turtle's Mock Turtle Soup, The Queen of Hearts' Jam Tarts, Chersire Cat's Grinny Mustard Rarebit, and more), photos and illustrations but also the full text of the original Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll.

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Getting new wood to age gracefully

DIY. Dark-roasted coffee, sandpaper and hammers can help make furniture appear beyond its years

Winter is fast approaching, and adding wood elements to your decor will create a warm atmosphere in which to spend the upcoming cold months. While naturally distressed wood is extremely popular, it can be hard to find.

With some creativity and a few household items, it's easy to recreate this effect on brand new wood or recycled furniture.

Prepare the wood

If you're starting a project from scratch, look for pieces of lumber that have knots and unique markings. If remodelling an existing piece of furniture, make sure to sand all surfaces to remove paint or stain before beginning. This will bring out the wood's natural grain and prepare the surface for a fresh finish.

Channel some aggression

Collect hammers, screwdrivers, chains or anything else that could be used to add interesting dents and scratches to the wood.

Feel free to get creative by gently hammering the side of screws or stones into the wood. Always take extra precaution when using tools in a different way than their intended purpose and wear safety goggles to protect from any flying objects.

Before finishing, give the corners and edges a hammer. Straight edges are a dead giveaway the wood isn't naturally distressed.

Coffee break

There are many ways to stain wood to give it an aged look, but using dark-roasted coffee is a popular and inexpensive method. After applying a coat or two of coffee, feel free to add a layer of stain by brushing it on and then wiping off the excess. For the most natural look, gently sand the areas that would get worn down the fastest, like arm rests or desktops, to reveal more grain.

Seal the deal

Use a coat or two of clear finish to help seal in the colour. All that's left to do is come up with a fascinating back story for your new antique piece of furniture.

Rehab Addict

- For more practical ideas, tune in to an all-new season of Rehab Addict, Tuesdays at 9 p.m. ET/PT beginning Nov. 19 on DIY Network Canada.

Applying a coat or two of coffee is an inexpensive way to help give new wood furniture an aged or distressed effect. ISTOCK

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Doping allegations

Hesjedal says he 'chose wrong path'

Star Canadian cyclist Ryder Hesjedal responded to doping allegations Wednesday, saying he "chose the wrong path" and made "mistakes."

Excerpts from a new book by former Danish rider Michael Rasmussen say Hesjedal was shown how to use performance-enhancing drugs at the start of his career.

"And even though those mistakes happened more than 10 years ago, and they were short-lived, it does not change the fact that I made them and I have lived with that and been sorry for it ever since," Hesjedal said in the statement.

The 32-year-old Victoria native and Giro d'Italia champion did not explicitly say he took performance-enhancing drugs, but he apologized to fans, sponsors and other cyclists.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Avs' Varlamov arrested in domestic violence case

Police say Colorado Avalanche goalie Semyon Varlamov surrendered to on an arrest warrant on charges of kidnapping and third-degree assault in what authorities are calling a domestic violence incident.

Police released few details about the case Wednesday night during a brief news conference and declined to elaborate, other than to say it involved someone who Varlamov was in an intimate relationship with.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Red Sox trump Cards for World Series crown

Beards beat the birds. Boston captures first Fall Classic at Fenway since 1918

Game 6

Red Sox	Cardinals
6	1

David Ortiz and the Boston Red Sox romped to their third World Series championship in 10 seasons, thumping October ace Michael Wacha and the St. Louis Cardinals 6-1 Wednesday night in Game 6.

Shane Victorino drove in four runs and John Lackey pitched shutout ball into the seventh inning as the Red Sox clinched a crown on their own field for the first time since 1918.

Fenway Park was rollicking, with the crowd standing from the very first pitch. Victorino lined a three-run double off the Green Monster in the third, and the cheers, chants and singing of "Sweet Caroline" only got louder after that.

Many fans paid over $1,000 per ticket for this night, eager to be part of an in-house celebration that had been building for nearly a century.

Ortiz drew three walks and scored twice.

Lackey gave up one run in 6 2-3 innings, becoming the first pitcher to start and win a World Series clincher for two different teams, having led the Angels past the Giants in 2002.

In all, a festive night for this bunch of bearded Bostonians under first-year John Farrell. The Red Sox joined the 1991 Minnesota Twins as the only teams to win the World Series a year after finishing in last place.

The Cardinals dropped their third straight game. After winning Game 3 on an obstruction call, they couldn't seem to get out of their own way.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Red Sox celebrate after defeating the Cardinals in Game 6 of the World Series in Boston on Wednesday night. ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

NHL. Leafs burn Flames for third straight victory

The Leafs celebrate Joffrey Lupul's third-period goal in Calgary on Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES

James van Riemsdyk scored a pivotal short-handed goal and Jonathan Bernier made 41 saves Wednesday night as the Toronto Maple Leafs made it three wins in a row with a 4-2 victory over the Calgary Flames.

Late in the first period with the Flames down 1-0 but on the power play, van Riemsdyk carried the puck out of his own end, worked a give-and-go with Jay McClement after crossing the Calgary blue-line and from 30 feet, snapped a shot over the glove of Karri Ramo.

The goal gave the Maple Leafs a 2-0 lead after 20 minutes, a period in which Calgary outshot Toronto 15-7. The visitors would not relinquish that lead the rest of the night.

It was Toronto's first victory in Calgary since Dec. 27, 2002. The Leafs had lost their last seven visits to the Scotiabank Saddledome.

Joffrey Lupul, Mason Raymond and Paul Ranger into an empty net rounded out the scoring for Toronto (10-4-0).

Matt Stajan and David Jones scored for Calgary (5-5-2), which lost at home in regulation for the first time (3-1-1). The Flames wrap up a three-game homestand Friday against Detroit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Stamps looking to smash club records

CFL. Hughes, Cornish, Paredes can set new benchmarks in regular season finale vs. B.C.

Friday's game in Vancouver against the B.C. Lions doesn't mean anything in the CFL standings for the Calgary Stampeders, who have already clinched the West Division. But running back Jon Cornish and defensive end Charleston Hughes are closing in on franchise records.

The result has no significance in the standings or playoff implications, but head coach John Hufnagel faces a balancing act as he tries to prepare his charges for the post-season, while giving some players a chance to set remarkable records.

The Stampeders (14-3) close out the regular season in Vancouver against the B.C. Lions on Friday.

Stampeders running back Jon Cornish. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/FILE

Calgary hosts the division final Nov. 17. After Friday's game, the Stampeders benefit from a few days of rest that division semifinalists Saskatchewan and B.C. won't get as they prepare for their playoff game Nov. 10 in Regina.

Hufnagel wants to put every player he takes to Vancouver on the field Friday to ensure they are all ready for the post-season.

That includes the three quarterbacks Kevin Glenn, Drew Tate and Bo Levi Mitchell. Hufnagel has said Glenn will start, but his plan is for each man to take multiple snaps.

Then there are the Stampeders looking to set personal milestones. Cornish is just under a 100 yards from breaking a franchise record for single-season rushing yards held by Willie Burden since 1975.

Hughes is two sacks from a club record 20. He would surpass the current record of 19 set by Harold Hallman in 1986.

At 207 points, kicker Rene Paredes is 14 points away from a Stampeders season record. If Paredes can maintain his 94.5 per cent success rate through Friday, that's a CFL record.

A 15th victory would also match a Stampeder record. Calgary had 15 wins three consecutive seasons from 1993 to 1995. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Toronto	14	10	4	0	48	32	20
Tampa Bay	12	8	4	0	40	33	16
Montreal	13	8	5	0	37	23	16
Boston	11	7	4	0	32	20	14
Detroit	12	6	4	2	27	33	14
Ottawa	12	4	6	2	35	38	10
Florida	12	3	7	2	26	42	8
Buffalo	14	2	11	1	23	41	5

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	13	9	4	0	41	31	18
N.Y. Islanders	12	4	5	3	37	39	11
Carolina	12	4	5	3	26	36	11
Columbus	11	5	6	0	31	29	10
Washington	12	5	7	0	34	38	10
New Jersey	12	3	5	4	26	37	10
N.Y. Rangers	11	4	7	0	18	37	8
Philadelphia	11	3	8	0	20	30	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Colorado	11	10	1	0	35	16	20
Chicago	13	8	2	3	45	38	19
St. Louis	10	7	1	2	38	25	16
Minnesota	13	6	4	3	30	31	15
Nashville	12	6	5	1	23	32	13
Winnipeg	14	5	7	2	34	40	12
Dallas	12	5	6	1	31	36	11

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
San Jose	12	10	1	1	48	20	21
Anaheim	13	10	3	0	42	33	20
Vancouver	14	9	4	1	41	39	19
Phoenix	13	8	3	2	43	40	18
Los Angeles	13	8	5	0	36	33	16
Calgary	12	5	5	2	36	43	12
Edmonton	14	3	9	2	36	54	8

Note: Two points for a win, one point for an overtime/shootout loss.

Wednesday's results
Toronto 4 Calgary 2
Pittsburgh 3 Boston 2
Detroit at Vancouver
San Jose at Los Angeles
Tuesday's results
Anaheim 3 Philadelphia 2
Chicago 6 Ottawa 5
Montreal 2 Dallas 1
New Jersey 2 Tampa Bay 1
N.Y. Rangers 3 NY Islanders 2
Phoenix 3 Los Angeles 1
St. Louis 3 Winnipeg 2
Toronto 4 Edmonton 0
Thursday's games — All Times Eastern
Anaheim at Boston, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

NBA

REGULAR SEASON

Wednesday's results
Toronto 93 Boston 87
Cleveland 98 Brooklyn 94
Dallas 118 Atlanta 109
Detroit 113 Washington 102
Houston 96 Charlotte 83
Indiana 95 New Orleans 90
Minnesota 120 Orlando 115 (OT)
New York 90 Milwaukee 83
Oklahoma City 101 Utah 98
Philadelphia 114 Miami 110
San Antonio 101 Memphis 94
Portland at Phoenix
Denver at Sacramento
L.A. Lakers at Golden State
Tuesday's results
Indiana 97 Orlando 87
L.A. Lakers 116 L.A. Clippers 103
Miami 107 Chicago 95
Thursday's games — All Times Eastern
New York at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Golden State at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

MLB PLAYOFFS

WORLD SERIES
(BEST-OF-7)

BOSTON (AL) VS. ST. LOUIS (NL)

(Boston wins series 4-2)
Wednesday's result
Boston 6 St. Louis 1
Monday's result
Boston 3 St. Louis 1

CFL

WEEK 19

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
y-Toronto	17	11	6	0	487	435	22
x-Hamilton	17	9	8	0	416	461	18
x-Montreal	17	7	10	0	436	451	14
Winnipeg	17	3	14	0	354	548	6

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
y-Calgary	17	14	3	0	542	387	28
x-Saskatchewan	17	11	6	0	493	368	22
x-B.C.	17	10	7	0	478	454	20
Edmonton	17	3	14	0	391	493	6

x — clinched playoff berth.
y — clinched division.
Friday's games — All Times Eastern
Montreal at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Calgary at B.C., 10 p.m.
Saturday's games
Hamilton at Winnipeg, 2 p.m.
Edmonton at Saskatchewan, 5 p.m.
(End of Regular Season)

NFL

WEEK NINE

Thursday's game — All Times Eastern
Cincinnati at Miami, 8:25 p.m.
Sunday's games
New Orleans at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Tennessee at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
San Diego at Washington, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Dallas, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at New England, 4:25 p.m.
Baltimore at Cleveland, 4:25 p.m.
Indianapolis at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, November 4
Chicago at Green Bay, 8:40 p.m.

MLS

PLAYOFFS

KNOCKOUT ROUND (single-game elimination)
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Wednesday's result
Colorado at Seattle
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Thursday's game — All Times Eastern
Montreal at Houston, 8:30 p.m.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You don't need to do anything special today. Others will provide the entertainment, all you have to do is sit back and enjoy the good times. Some people may get emotional but you'll be in control at all times.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Social activities will go well today and if you visit a place you have never been before, you will fun. Relationships too are under excellent stars, growing deeper and stronger.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Few people get more enjoyment out of their daily activities than you. But family and financial issues still need to be dealt with, and quickly. That means today, not next week.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
There is a great deal of tension in your life right now and with Mars and Pluto strong today, it could reach a peak. The good news is once that peak is reached, you'll accomplish something truly remarkable.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Sometimes you are too trusting and other times you are not trusting enough. Today, you'll be inclined to give someone who doesn't deserve it the benefit of the doubt. Make sure it's not your money at stake.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
With action planet Mars in your sign allied to Pluto, planet of transformation, you should be aiming to change your life for the better. What is the biggest change you could make?

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will surprise a few people today. Those who had written you off as too cautious will be astonished to see how dynamic and daring you are — and a bit scared by your level of passion.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will be on the move today and the people you meet and the things you see will open your mind to new possibilities. The way you look at the world will change completely over the next 24 hours. That's good.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It is important that you focus on positive thoughts. If you let negativity to creep in, you'll convince yourself that life is against you when the universe really wants you to be happy.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Mars, planet of energy and ambition, will inspire you to do something beyond the call of duty. Whatever it is, you will make a great impression on people in positions of power.

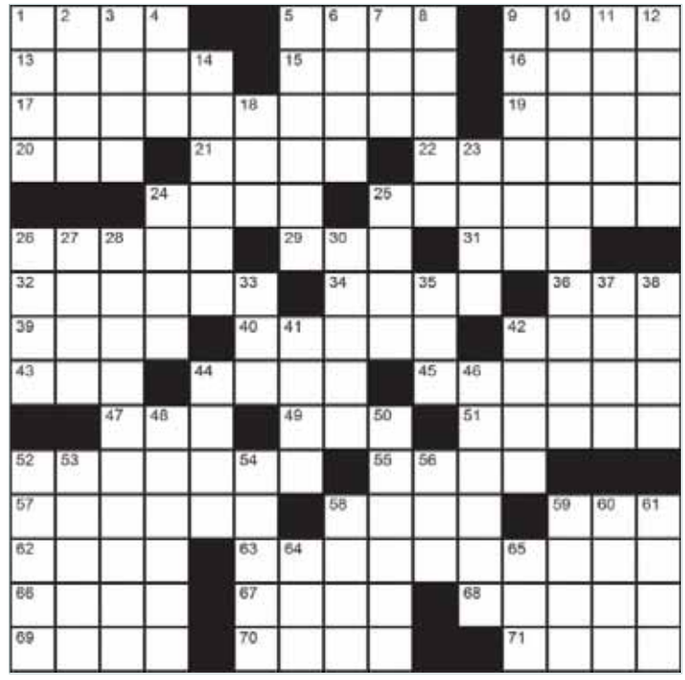
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Everyone is born with a purpose and you are no exception, so find out what it is and then commit yourself to seeing it through to the end. Don't hide in the background where you cannot be seen.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You will be so excitable today but in a good way. It's as if you have swoken up to the fact that anything is possible and that what you desire most is the easiest thing in the world to possess. Get it! SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

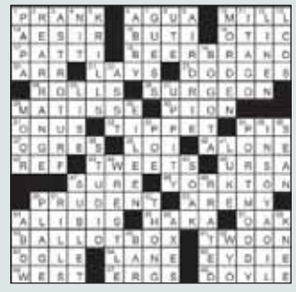
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Halloween hit: "Monster __"
5. Large amount
9. Fight
13. Margarines
15. "_ __... _ Said" by Neil Diamond
16. Ireland
17. Full moon howlers
19. "Are you mad __ __?" ...queried the cold-shoulder-ee
20. Maiden name indicator
21. Roof's overhang
22. Delete
24. Not there
25. Cauldron stirrers
26. Aspect
29. Big TV brand
31. Sports official, for short
32. Struck with fright
34. Frost-covered
36. Strange
39. Twofold
40. Is forbidden to, quaint-style
42. Prior to, for short
43. 'Hallow' suffix
44. Droopy
45. Dracula author Bram
47. Trio of the Alphabet
49. And so on, short-ened
51. __ up (Becomes more informed)
52. Frightful flick of 197666: 2 wds.
55. Applications
57. Scream!
58. Kind of agreement
59. "Yikes!!!"
62. Barenaked Ladies song
63. James Brolin/Margot Kidder thriller, "The __ Horror" (1979)
66. Bill of fare
67. Double affirmative, in Spanish
68. Composition
69. Units of work
70. All Hallows, and others
71.Writes

Down
1. Cut down, as grass
2. Sailing side
3. Bone dry
4. Tilling tool
5. What #17-Across don't like
6. Bat's hangout
7. Soul: French
8. Frisbee-shaped track-and-field thrown-things
9. Haunted house gathering
10. Accessories for devil costumes
11. Military force, in French
12. Film holders
14. Candies
18. Paddle
23. Take _ __ (Attempt)
24. Become better
25. Farm cart
26. Get dimmer
27. Flu symptom
28. Canadian horror starring George C. Scott, "The __" (1980)
30. Tales from the __ (Creepy comic book series)
33. "Stop over-sharing so many personal details!", briefly
35. Everest, et al.
37. "Groove Is in the Heart": 1990 dance music hit for __-Lite
38. Hook-ups for TVs
41. "Right on!"
42. Pea: French
44. Lemon's friend
46. Midnight, __ O'Clock
48. "You can't __ __ against our wishes!"
50. "Halloween" (1978) star, Jamie Lee __
52. Subject matter
53. Skills-sharpener
54. Obliterate
56. For example...
58. Bank of the __ at Auvers (Vincent van Gogh painting, oil on canvas, 1890)
59. "If all __ fails..."
60. Flair
61. Door openers
64. 1004 in ancient Rome
65. Web connector, for short

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

2						9		6
		7	5		1			
3					2			
		6					7	
	9	2	1	5	4	3	6	
	1					5		
			6					2
			3		9	8		
8		4						5

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	9	2	3	7	4	5	8	1
5	4	1	9	8	2	3	6	7
3	7	8	5	6	1	9	2	4
8	2	3	7	9	5	1	4	6
7	5	4	6	1	8	2	9	3
1	6	9	2	4	3	7	5	8
2	1	6	8	3	9	4	7	5
4	8	5	1	2	7	6	3	9
9	3	7	4	5	6	8	1	2

Weather

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MAX: 9° MIN: 0°	MAX: 7° MIN: -2°	MAX: 3° MIN: -4°

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